

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
March 14, 2013

Present: Knox (chair), Coughlin, Roberts, Ames, Milius, Scott Shelden (staff), Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

The minutes of the January 10, 2013 meeting were accepted on a motion by Robert/Ames.

Scott Shelden, the new transfer station supervisor, reported on some of the changes that have been made at the transfer station including moving to single stream recycling and disassembling items to sell as scrap metal. Wire is now being collected separately and sold as copper. He stated that he will be certified to extract Freon from appliance. Once trained, he will be able to remove the refrigerants and separate the copper and aluminum from appliances. He and the attendant are able to keep the transfer station in order on the days it is open and also help the public works crew on the two days it is closed.

Walton reported that the cooking oil collection through UConn professor Richard Parnas's biodiesel lab fell through due to a UConn administrative decision. Coughlin suggested finding out if there are people in the community who may be interested in taking waste cooking oil. Shelden will ask around and report back. Walton stated that she has come across a rumor that the swap shop is closing. A sign was posted at the transfer station that stated there is a \$2/box charge for swap shop donations, which has discouraged donations. She suggested a revised sign stating "Swap shop donations will be checked for quality. No charge for gently-used swap shop donations. Broken and dirty items will be charged."

Rid Litter Day is scheduled for May 4, 2013, the weekend after UConn's Spring Weekend. Unlimited trash pickup will be scheduled for the following week. Walton will send out the Adopt a Road participant list for committee members to look over to see if there is anyone that they would be willing to contact about working in a group on Rid Litter Day on Mansfield City Road, Clover Mill Road, Spring Hill Road, Pleasant Valley Road, or another road.

Walton circulated information from Middletown's zero waste initiative, including a recently adopted municipal pledge. Members were asked to look over the information in preparation for the Middletown recycling coordinator's visit (Kim O'Rourke) with the committee in May.

Walton reported that no further changes have been made to Oaks on the Square Apartments trash and recycling service. Town Council did approve the rates for trash and recycling pickup five and six times per week.

Walton reported that the current electronics recycler that the Town has been using, WeRecycle, is no longer a state approved recycling vendor. Staff is evaluating proposals from other state approved electronics recyclers and will make a decision in the next week or two. Roberts suggested considering RGB, which has provided good service to the Town of Lebanon.

Walton gave an update on paint recycling. The Town has sent in a letter of interest and anticipates starting collection at the transfer station in July when the paint stewardship law is supposed to go into effect. Mansfield Supply and Sherwin Williams have also expressed interest in being collection outlets.

Mid-NEROC should be deciding soon if they will accept paint at the hazardous waste facility.

UConn Give and Go is scheduled for May 9 through 12, 2013. Walton is participating in the process once again and may be calling upon members to help with sorting items in the Hicks Arena.

Walton gave an update on the compost assistant's activities, who seems to be unable, due to his class schedule, to keep on top of the compost operations at the four schools.

The Town sent testimony to the state legislature in support of this year's mattress stewardship bill, HB 6437. As it has industry support this year, it seems hopeful that it will pass.

Future agenda items include the single-family contract and zero waste initiatives. The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator